

**IN THE
UNITED STATES
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

IN RE APPLICATION OF: HORVATH, et al.

CASE: OST-061157

SERIAL NO.: 9352

CONFIRMATION NO.: 10/587,104

FILING DATE: July 21, 2006

FOR:
METHOD AND SYSTEM
FOR DETERMINING THE
THICKNESS OF A LAYER
OF LACQUER

**TRANSMITTAL OF
INFORMATION
DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT**

**STATEMENT OF BASIS
FOR RELEVANCE OF
FOREIGN LANGUAGE
DOCUMENTS
IDENTIFIED IN
INFORMATION
DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT**

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

ATTENTION OF:
Art Unit
EXAMINER:
Not yet assigned

Dear Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement (“IDS”) is submitted pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.56.

The filing of this “information disclosure statement shall not be construed to be an admission that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in § 1.56(b).” See 37 CFR § 1.97(h).

Because the IDS is being provided before the receipt of the first Office Action, Applicant submits the IDS without fee.

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STATEMENT OF BASIS OF RELEVANCE

Publication No.	Publication Date	Basis for Relevance
JP 10-237695	September 8, 1998	<p>PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To suppress the film thickness of the coating films on the inside surfaces of automotive bodies and to increase the thickness of the coating films within their bag structures by immersing the automotive bodies into an electrodeposition coating material, supplying current between these bodies as cathodes and an anode to execute electrodeposition coating and further directly stirring the electrodeposition coating material in passenger rooms during coating or vibrating the coating material. SOLUTION: The automotive body 1 is carried via a conveyors 8 and hangers 9 into an electrodeposition tank 4 and is immersed into the electrodeposition coating material in the tank. While the electrodeposition coating material is fluidized and its settling is suppressed by an injection nozzle 11, the DC current is supplied between the automotive body 1 as the cathode and the anode 5. As a result, the coating of cation is adsorbed to the automotive body 1 and the electrodeposition coating is executed. The one vane 6a of the stirring device 6 is rotated by the flow of the electrodeposition coating material and the other vane 6 inserted into the passenger room is rotated during this coating to stir the electrodeposition coating material in the passenger room. The deposition of the coating material on the inside surface is suppressed by this force stirring, by which the coating films are thinly formed. The coating material is admitted into the bag structure parts to accelerate the formation of the coating films therein.</p>

Publication No.	Publication Date	Basis for Relevance
JP 1-272795	October 31, 1989	<p>PURPOSE: To thicken film thickness while well holding film quality by heating an electrolyte in which an electrode plate is provided in the case of immersing a material to be coated in the electrolyte and impressing voltage between the material to be coated and the electrode plate and coating it.</p> <p>CONSTITUTION: A heater 11 is provided to the bottom part of an electrodeposition tank 1 in which an electrolyte 2 is stored and also the electrode plates 3 are provided and the temp. of the electrolyte 2 is held at the required temp. with a temp. controller 13 connected with both the heater 11 and a separately provided temp. sensor 12. The body 4 of an automobile being a material to be coated which has been immersed in the electrolyte 2 is impressed e.g., with negative voltage to form a film. When impressing prescribed voltage while holding the temp. of the electrolyte 2 at the temp. higher than room temp. by this method, the thick film can be formed in comparison with the case of performing coating at the equal voltage at room temp. and film quality is regulated to the same degree as the film quality at the equal voltage at room temp.</p>

Application No. 10/584,104
IDS and Statement of Relevance
Dated: March 4, 2008

Publication No.	Publication Date	Basis for Relevance
JP 2000-64096	February 29, 2000	PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To provide an electrodeposition coating method and a continuous electrodeposition device by which an electrodeposited film free of poppings or pinholes and having an appropriate thickness is formed on an outside plate part while ensuring an appropriate thickness in the electrodeposited film in a bag-shaped part. SOLUTION: The electrodeposition coating performed in the same electrodeposition tank is halved at an appropriate time into a primary energizing and a secondary energizing with an intervening 1-60 sec power stoppage or slight energizing time at a low voltage of 30 V, 5-50% of the total integrated current supply is supplied at a relatively low voltage in the primary energizing, the remaining current supply at a relatively high voltage is supplied in the secondary energizing. Consequently, the excessive film growth at an outside plate part, or the like, is controlled, the generation of poppings or pinholes is prevented, and a specified thickness is secured in the electrodeposited film in the bag- shaped part, or the like.

Publication No.	Publication Date	Basis for Relevance
JP 2-258998	October 19, 1990	PURPOSE:To surely form an electrodeposition coating film appropriate for the materials of various size and kinds to be coated by indexing the electrodeposition coating film thickness after the software is started for each material and adjusting a voltage to draw a locus fulfilling the integral of a voltage-time curve capable of obtaining the thickness. CONSTITUTION:A specified low voltage is impressed on a low-voltage bar 4 to initially energize each automobile body W submerged in an electrodeposition tank 3, and a high voltage is impressed on the body W transferred from the bar 4. The thickness n1 of a coating film to be formed from the start to finish of the software is indexed for each body W based on the preset thickness N of the coating film. The integral value of the voltage-time curve capable of obtaining the thickness n1 is obtained. The voltage is adjusted so that the voltage-time curve at the start of the software draws the locuses a-c fulfilling the integral value obtained for each body W. As a result, the existing equipment is used as such without specially remodeling the feeder bar and the electrode in the tank, and an electrodeposition coating film appropriate for the material of various size and kinds is formed.

Publication No.	Publication Date	Basis for Relevance
JP 4-165099	June 10, 1992	<p>PURPOSE:To always form an electrodeposition coating film in appropriate and uniform thickness regardless of the kinds of products, etc., by determining the coating condition for each set from an increase with time of the integrated current value between an article to be coated and an electrode plate when the voltage impressed on the electrode plate in a paint tank is increased.</p> <p>CONSTITUTION:An article A to be coated is dipped in a paint tank 1, and the voltage impressed on an electrode plate 3a is increased. In this case, the integrated current value (about 0-60mV) flowing in a wiring 9 is measured by an ammeter 12 and monitored. The DC current measured by the ammeter 12 is converted into a digital signal by a converter 13, and the signal current (about 4-20mA) is sent to a computing element 14. The change in the measured integrated current value with time is compared with a reference value by the element 14 to calculate the total surface area, kind and number of only one set of the articles A loaded on a pallet 7, the coating conditions such as the voltage to be impressed on the electrode plates 3a and 3b and current applying time are determined for each set of the articles A, and a signal for adjusting the current to be applied is sent to a control panel. As a result, an electrodeposition coating film is formed always in appropriate and uniform thickness.</p>

Application No. 10/584,104
IDS and Statement of Relevance
Dated: March 4, 2008

Publication No.	Publication Date	Basis for Relevance
JP 63-310996	December 19, 1988	PURPOSE:To easily form a paint film of a desired thickness when the surface of a work is coated by batch system electrodeposition in an electrodeposition tank, by deciding the quantity (C) of electricity required from the surface area of the work and the thickness of the paint film and supplying electric current until the quantity (C) is attained. CONSTITUTION:A work W is immersed in paint 3 in an electrodeposition tank 1 and electric current is supplied from a power source 4 to the work W and electrodes 2 to coat the work W by electrodeposition. The paint 3 is cooled with a circulation cooler 5 and the temp. of the paint 3 is controlled with a controller 11. In this operation, the quantity (C) of electricity required is previously decided from the surface area of the work W and the thickness of a paint film formed and the quantity (C) of electricity during coating is measured with a coulomb meter 10 and inputted in the controller 11. The controller 11 controls the power source 4 to stop the supply of electric current when the quantity (C) of electricity required is attained. Thus, the work W can be coated under optimum conditions.

Applicant believes that no additional charges or fees are required with this communication; however, if any additional charges or fees must be paid in connection with the following communication, they may be paid out of our Deposit Account No. 50-0545.

Should anything further be required, a telephone call to the undersigned at (312) 226-1818 is respectfully solicited.

Dated: March 4, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

/Joseph M. Kinsella Jr./
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One of the Attorneys for the Applicant